

## Research Firm Gets Grant For Pesticide Study

A federal grant of \$59,500 has been made to Midwest Research Institute to establish the first national monitoring system for measuring the amounts of pesticides in the general population.

The six-month study grant was from the Public Health Service's Office of Pesticides Intelligence System, a medical information center on pesticides and other toxic contaminants, which will be responsi-

ble for the network's operation.

MRI will establish the operating criteria for the system. Ten urban center stations will be chosen initially by the research institute to collect human tissues and body fluids for pesticide analysis. Eventually, 135 such stations will be established throughout the country.

The primary objective is to provide continuous scientific data on the kinds and amounts of pesticides retained in the tissues and organs of persons from both the food they eat and the air they breathe.

Physicians and hospitals will

be asked to cooperate in providing samples of fatty, liver, kidney, and brain tissues and blood and urine to be used in the analyses. A history of those persons sampled will be kept and correlated with other toxicological research findings to identify any existing or potential dangers.

Dr. J. Earl Barney II, head of analytical chemistry at MRI, said the study is designed to provide a basis for determining better and safer uses of pesticides.

"In view of the large and increasing use of pesticides in agriculture and around the home, and the possibility that

Skin and scuba divers are reminded that for every 33 feet they descend there is an extra 14 pounds of pressure to each square inch of the body. Most serious and fatal accidents occur when divers fail to consider this law of physics.

human body concentrations might under certain conditions be detrimental, health authorities believe it essential to conduct a broad study of pesticides in people," he said.

## Feeder Steer Chart Issued By USDA

Charts showing the various grades of feeder steers are now available from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Feeder cattle grades were designed by the Consumer and Marketing service to correspond closely to the official U.S. grades for slaughter cattle. A feeder steer that grades U.S. Choice, for example, would be expected to produce a Choice slaughter steer after a normal feeding period.

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